



to applicants' knowledge, before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement shall be considered by the Patent Office.

In addition, if a first Office Action has been mailed, each item of information contained in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1)). Accordingly, no fee as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is due.

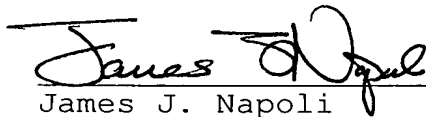
The Commissioner, however, is hereby authorized to charge any fee which may be required during the pendency of this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 37 C.F.R. 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 13-2855. A duplicate copy of this Transmittal is enclosed herewith.

A copy of the International Search Report is enclosed for the convenience of the examiner and to complete the file.

Respectfully submitted,

**MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP**

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James J. Napoli", is written over a horizontal line.

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December 22, 2004

Form 1449PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

*(use as many sheets as necessary)*

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/612,789
Filing Date	July 2, 2003
First Named Inventor	Milan Sojka
Group Art Unit	1645
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	30530/38803

Sheet	1	of	1
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## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY
		4,536,387	08/20/1985
		4,859,467	08/22/1989
		6,337,078	01/08/2002
		US 2002/0192260	12/19/2002

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY
		2003155665 (JP--Abstract only)	05/30/2003
		11152206 (JP--Abstract only)	06/08/1999
		03019964 (JP--Abstract only)	01/29/1991
		54122717 (JP--Abstract only)	09/22/1979
		0 253 554 (EPO)	01/20/1988
		1,172,115 (EPO)	01/16/2002

## OTHER PRIOR ART – NONPATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.